

ABAG-MTC Joint Policy Committee

Minutes of the Meeting of August 11, 2004
Held at 10:00 a.m. in ABAG Conference Room B

Attendance:

ABAG members:

Dave Cortese
Rose Jacobs Gibson
Mark Green
Steve Rabinowitsh
Gwen Regalia

MTC members:

Mark DeSaulnier
Steve Kinsey (Chair)
Sue Lempert
John McLemore
Jon Rubin
Jim Spering

ABAG staff:

Alex Amoroso
Patricia Jones
Eugene Leong
Janet McBride
Kenneth Moy

MTC staff:

Steve Heminger
Doug Kimsey
James Corless

JPC staff:

Ted Droettboom

Other:

Linda Craig, League of Women Voters
Michael Cunningham, Bay Area Council
David Schonbrunn, Transdef
Leslie Stewart, Bay Area Monitor

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The chair opened the meeting with a welcome, and those in attendance introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Joint Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2004

The Minutes of the last meeting were distributed but not acted upon.

3. The Regional Planning Landscape

The Regional Planning Program Director reviewed current regional planning efforts, presented an initial assessment of issues and concerns, and sought the Committee's informal guidance on a general approach to work program. A copy of the Director's PowerPoint presentation has been distributed to Committee members and is available on the JPC website (abag.ca.gov/jointpolicy/meetings).

Committee members and others commented that:

- The vision needs to be confirmed with and implemented through local governments, using planners and city managers as the conduits, and through mechanisms that are friendly, not bureaucratic;
- Our regional planning objectives need to be integrated into continuous local planning and into other lasting institutions so that implementation continues after those who are here now are gone;
- The uniqueness of the region needs to be recognized in our vision and its implementation;
- We should implement incrementally and carefully through example;
- Transportation policy needs to facilitate smart growth;
- We need to monitor and track progress on the ground, learning what municipalities are now doing to pursue development which serves regional objectives;
- We may want to consider attaching priorities to different open spaces, allocating employment growth across the region and assigning housing growth to broader areas than individual municipalities;
- We need to be conscious of potential unintended consequences when implementing broad reforms in such areas as construction defect litigation and taxation systems;
- We should be proactive with our own legislative agenda and with public communication.

4. Meeting Schedule

The Committee agreed that, if required, it will meet on the mornings of the following dates: September 24th, October 22nd, November 19th, December 17th. The Committee expressed a preference for meeting less frequently than once a month as soon as possible.

5. Legislative Update

Summaries of pending legislation relating to the Committee's mandate were distributed.

6. Other Business

There was none.

7. Public Comment

A concern was expressed about the adequacy of public notification for this meeting. The Director will ensure that this problem does not recur.